

# LIFE GROUP STUDY

**Series Big Idea:** When Jerusalem’s city walls were crumbling and the hearts of the people were failing, God raised up a group of ordinary people. Through Nehemiah’s story, we learn that when we embrace God-sized dreams and add our personal best, the results are oftentimes unimaginable.

**Pull Together.** What is one of the most satisfying volunteer projects you have participated in? What part of the project was given to you? How did your responsibility stretch you? Share one of the thoughts that you remember from Gene Appel’s message on Sunday. Tell why that part stood out to you.

## Reflect on the Biblical Story

## Nehemiah 3:1-12

In just the first 12 verses of this chapter, you can see the diversity of the people who collaborated on the project to rebuild the walls and gates of Jerusalem. Talk about the variety of occupations, home towns, and people who worked side by side with each other on the project.

What would have motivated them to add their unique gifts (see Nehemiah 2:17-20)?

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What kind of sacrifices did people have to make to participate in the wall-building project?

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One of the most common phrases in chapter 3 is the word/phrase “next” or “next to”. Discuss what it might have been like to work beside people like those mentioned in verses 3, 5, 8, 10, 12 and 20.

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As you review this diary of collaboration, what do you believe added to the success of the total project?

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**Discuss together these implications:**

- We are invited to participate in God’s mission, but it is always our choice to respond.
- We are ultimately accountable for our use of the resources entrusted to us.
- Great achievements in God’s mission are the result of enthusiastic people working side by side with others.
- No matter who you are or what you do, you can help with God’s project in some way. Everyone’s part makes a difference.

## Responding to God's Story

1. How has God supplied you with resources, vocation, talents, knowledge, and strength to help accomplish his mission of helping people find their way back to God?

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2. What are ways that you can join in First Christian's God-sized vision? Can you give, pray, serve, or invite people to discover the hope that Jesus can give them?

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3. We dream of a Nehemiah 3 experience at First Christian. We desire for 100% of our church family to engage in this project. How do you feel when you become an active partner in a project that helps promote God's great mission on earth?

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### Prayer:

Lord, I am grateful for all that you have given me. What I have may not seem like much in light of your whole grand dream. But, I am willing to add my part to the investment of others to see you do more than I can imagine.